



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
10 W. JACKSON BLVD.
CHICAGO, IL 60604

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Gail Montenegro
Marilú Cabrera
(312) 353-7329

INS Citizenship Office Moves to New Location

CHICAGO, IL., April 7, 2000 - The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Chicago announced today that the citizenship office has moved to 539 South La Salle Street, from its previous address at 401 South State Street. This new location is much larger and more accommodating to the approximately 500 applicants that visit the citizenship office each day to be interviewed.

The official ceremony was followed by a tour of the facility. Members of Community Based Organizations (CBOs), American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), and Congressional offices that deal with immigration issues in their daily work, were invited to attend this event.

"I am very pleased and excited to have such a wonderful new office to accommodate the many applicants we see each day, as well as providing a much more comfortable work environment for our employees," said Brian R. Perryman, District Director of the INS in Chicago. "This is part of our commitment to offer improved services to all that come in contact with our office."

This new facility has a spacious queuing area as you first walk into the office as well as a much larger waiting room, making it more comfortable for those who are waiting to be interviewed as part of their United States Citizenship requirement.

So far in fiscal year 2000, which began October 1, 1999, the INS office in Chicago has naturalized more than 11,500 new citizens. In fiscal year 1999, 40,803 people were naturalized by our office, almost twice the number naturalized the previous year.

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